

**Executive Committee for Highway Safety  
Driver Education Working Group  
Meeting Minutes – Mtg. #2  
November 30, 2006**

**Location:**

Chief Engineer's Conference Room, Beryl Rd, 9:30 a.m..

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Cliff Braam	Selena Berrier	Janet Whetstone	Joe Shrader
Chuck Lehning	Phil McGirt	Dale Fox	John Stokes
Jeff Garland	Gene Causby	Lt. Mark Parker	Johanna Chase
Julian Council			

**Scribe:**

Cliff Braam

**Minutes:**

- The meeting began at 9:30 a.m.

**Task I – Welcome/Introductions**

- Cliff opened the meeting, welcomed and thanked everyone for coming and participating. He provided some background information on why the group was there and highway safety issues in NC.
- Next everyone in the group introduced themselves, where they were from and a bit about their background and area of expertise.

**Task II – Young Driver Data**

Cliff provided the group with some preliminary crash data showing the involvement of young drivers (15-19 years of age). There was some general discussion of the data and it was noted that when/if the group began development of a state wide curriculum/course of study guide, that crash data should be an integral part of deciding what the course content should include.

**Task III – Group Goals**

There was some discussion on where the group needs to be heading, and discussions stayed on course with previous discussions from the first meeting of the group. It was initially decided that there should be two primary goals of the group. 1) In accordance with the Executive Committee's direction, the group needs to explore development of a statewide curriculum/course of study for use by everyone in the state who teaches Driver Education and 2) begin examining the various issues/ideas on the group's "wish list" for further investigation and implementation where warranted.

## **Task IV– Discussion/Prioritization of “Wish List”**

Task IV and V became one big discussion that consumed the remainder of the meeting time. There was a lot of good discussion and by the end of the meeting, ideas for the group’s first two strategies were developed.

### **Strategy 1 - One Governing Body for Driver Education**

The group unanimously felt that a key step in addressing driver education within North Carolina is to have one governing body in charge of the entire program. As it stands now, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) both have roles in the overall process, but neither coordinates as closely as they should/could with the other. DPI can not be responsible for DMV’s roles and activities and vice versa. The group felt strongly that there needs to be one governing body (likely a dedicated position) to oversee all activities related to state funded Driver Education and that this process would ensure more continuity, consistency and accountability. From the group discussions, it was generally felt that DPI would be the likely candidate for the agency to oversee this.

### **Strategy 2 – Remove Daytime Teaching Restrictions**

The group felt that another positive first step would be to remove the present restriction on teaching driver education during the school hours. This action would not require legislation, but rather would only require approval by the State Board of Education and a change in their policy.

Chuck, Joe and Cliff will take the lead on drafting the initial strategies for these two ideas and then the drafts will be circulated to the rest of the group for comments, revisions, etc. It is anticipated that with everyone’s help, we can get these two strategies ready for submission to the Executive Committee by their next meeting on January 16, 2007.

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: TBD